

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-82. (Canceled)

83. (Currently amended) A process according to claim ~~82~~ 125 wherein the subject matter for communication involves items relating to the dating service.

84. (Canceled)

85. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 83 wherein the inquiry data includes an indication of the amount that a buyer is willing to pay for the dating service.

86. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 85 wherein the amount that a buyer is willing to pay for the dating service is expressed as a maximum amount.

87. (Canceled)

88. (Canceled)

89. (Currently amended) A process according to claim ~~82~~ 125 wherein ~~an active inquiring a buyer~~ terminal user is further ~~interconnected~~ connected to receive video data from another video memory ~~responder~~ site.

90. (Currently amended) A process according to claim ~~63~~ 125 wherein at least part of the ~~inquiry~~ request data is communicated by electronic mail.

91. (Currently amended) A process according to claim ~~63~~ 125 wherein the ~~video~~ proposed data ~~is~~ includes dynamic video images.

92. (Currently amended) A process according to claim ~~63~~ 125 wherein the ~~video~~ proposed data ~~is~~ includes high resolution still image video.

93. (Canceled)

94. (Canceled)

95. (Currently amended) A process according to claim ~~82~~ 125 wherein the ~~inquiry~~ request data includes a check digit.

96. (Canceled)

97. (Currently amended) A process according to claim ~~82~~ 125 wherein the ~~inquiry~~ request data includes billing data for a ~~user~~ buyer.

98. (Currently amended) A process according to claim ~~82~~ 125 wherein ~~the interfacing step~~ one or more buyers with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units includes interfacing a personal computer as a ~~user~~ remote video terminal.

99. (Canceled)

100. (Canceled)

101. (Currently amended) A process according to claim ~~63~~ 125 wherein ~~the interfacing step~~ one or more buyers with the one or more multiple

coordinated central control units includes voice recognition operations for the users one or more buyers.

102-120. (Canceled)

121. (Currently amended) A process according to claim ~~116~~ 125 wherein said step of receiving ~~inquiry~~ request data includes communication through an on-line computer service.

122. (Canceled)

123. (Canceled)

124. (Canceled)

125. (New) A process for directing and exchanging data communications in real-time under control of one or more multiple coordinated central control units to accomplish transactions relating to merchandise or services available for purchase, the process involving interfacing under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, one or more buyers at a plurality of remote locations using remote video terminals including personal computers with video capability, the one or more multiple coordinated central control units in communication with one or more vendors and having a capability to electronically communicate through a public communication system, the process comprising the steps of:

interfacing one or more buyers with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units for electronic communication;

receiving identification data from at least one buyer, the identification data qualifying the at least one buyer for select communications with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units;

interfacing one or more buyers with one or more live operator stations under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units,

wherein at least one of the one or more live operator stations has graphics display capabilities and has access to at least certain data associated with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units;

receiving request data from one or more buyers, the request data indicating an area of interest relating to merchandise or services available for purchase;

storing at least part of the request data;

interfacing one or more buyers to a video memory under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, the video memory storing one or more high resolution video images and text data relating to merchandise or services available for purchase from the one or more vendors;

facilitating access to proposed data from the video memory, the proposed data including video images and text data responsive to the request data for viewing by a buyer;

storing data relating to one or more transactions initiated by one or more buyers; and

transmitting to at least one buyer a message including data relating to a transaction initiated by the at least one buyer after an interface between the at least one buyer and the one or more multiple coordinated central control units is terminated, the data including a number identifying the transaction.

126. (New) A process according to claim 125 wherein the step of interfacing one or more buyers with one or more live operator stations facilitates electronic communications between at least one buyer and at least one live operator station.

127. (New) A process according to claim 126 wherein the at least one buyer's electronic communications with the live operator station include real-time voice communication.

128. (New) A process according to claim 126 wherein the at least one buyer's electronic communications with the live operator station include real-time video communication.

129. (New) A process according to claim 126 wherein the at least one buyer's electronic communications with the live operator station include live person-to-person video communication.

130. (New) A process according to claim 125 wherein the step of interfacing one or more buyers with one or more live operator stations facilitates real-time voice communications between at least one buyer and at least one live operator terminal.

131. (New) A process according to claim 130 wherein an auto dialer associated with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units facilitates the step of interfacing one or more buyers with one or more live operator stations for real-time voice communications.

132. (New) A process according to claim 125 further comprising the step of monitoring time limitations relating to a purchase of merchandise or services.

133. (New) A process according to claim 125 wherein the proposed data includes a vendor merchandise or service offering.

134. (New) A process according to claim 133 further comprising the step of obtaining buyer reaction data relating to the vendor merchandise or service offering.

135. (New) A process according to claim 125 wherein at least one remote video terminal is located in a buyer's home.

136. (New) A process according to claim 125 further comprising the step of facilitating access by one or more buyers to one or more vendors under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units.

137. (New) A process according to claim 125 further comprising the step of interfacing one or more buyers with one or more automated response units under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units.

138. (New) A process according to claim 125, further comprising the step of:

notifying one or more buyers regarding a new merchandise or service offering from a vendor.

139. (New) A process according to claim 138, wherein the new merchandise or service offering is available for a limited period of time.

140. (New) A process according to claim 138, wherein the one or more buyers subsequently communicate via the one or more multiple coordinated central control units regarding the new merchandise or service offering.

141. (New) A process according to claim 140, further comprising the step of:

storing, via the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, data relating to the one or more buyers' subsequent communications regarding the new merchandise or service offering.

142. (New) A process according to claim 138, further comprising obtaining buyer reaction data regarding the new merchandise or service offering.

143. (New) A process according to claim 125 wherein certain of the one or more vendors are accorded a priority status under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units.

144. (New) A process according to claim 125 wherein the message is transmitted via electronic mail.

145. (New) A process for directing and exchanging data communications in real-time under control of one or more multiple coordinated central control

units to accomplish transactions relating to merchandise or services available for purchase, the process involving interfacing under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, one or more buyers at a plurality of remote locations using remote video terminals including personal computers with video capability, the one or more multiple coordinated central control units in communication with one or more vendors and having a capability to electronically communicate through a public communication system, the process comprising the steps of:

- interfacing one or more buyers with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units for electronic communication;

- receiving identification data from at least one buyer, the identification data qualifying the at least one buyer for select communications with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units;

- receiving request data from at least one buyer, the request data including one or more merchandise or service categories and subcategories and an indication of a price the at least one buyer is willing to pay for merchandise or services relating to the one or more merchandise or service categories and subcategories;

- storing at least part of the request data;

- interfacing one or more buyers to a video memory under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, the video memory storing one or more high resolution video images and text data relating to merchandise or services available for purchase from the one or more vendors;

- facilitating access to proposed data from the video memory, the proposed data including video images and text data responsive to the request data for viewing by a buyer;

- storing data relating to one or more transactions initiated by one or more buyers;

- maintaining in a memory associated with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units data indicating a rating or a priority designation, or both, for at least one of the one or more vendors; and

transmitting to at least one buyer a message including data relating to a transaction initiated by the at least one buyer after an interface between the at least one buyer and the one or more multiple coordinated central control units is terminated, the data including a number identifying the transaction.

146. (New) A process according to claim 145 wherein the indication of the price is a maximum amount that the at least one buyer is willing to pay for the merchandise or services.

147. (New) A process according to claim 145 wherein the one or more merchandise or service categories and subcategories are represented by codes.

148. (New) A process according to claim 147 wherein the codes are represented by numerical representations.

149. (New) A process according to claim 145, further comprising the step of:

notifying one or more buyers regarding a new merchandise or service offering from a vendor.

150. (New) A process according to claim 149, wherein the new merchandise or service offering is available for a limited period of time.

151. (New) A process according to claim 149, wherein the one or more buyers subsequently communicate via the one or more multiple coordinated central control units regarding the new merchandise or service offering.

152. (New) A process according to claim 151, further comprising the step of:

storing, via the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, data relating to the one or more buyers' subsequent communications regarding the new merchandise or service offering.



153. (New) A process according to claim 149, further comprising obtaining buyer reaction data regarding the new merchandise or service offering.

154. (New) A process according to claim 145 wherein at least one remote video terminal is located in a buyer's home.

155. (New) A process according to claim 145 further comprising the step of facilitating access by one or more buyers to one or more vendors under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units.

156. (New) A process according to claim 145 further comprising the step of monitoring time limitations relating to a purchase of merchandise or services.

157. (New) A process according to claim 145 wherein at least certain of the proposed data reflects, at least in part, the rating or the priority designation, or both, maintained for the at least one of the one or more vendors.

158. (New) A process according to claim 145 wherein the message is transmitted via electronic mail.

159. (New) A process for directing and exchanging data communications in real-time under control of one or more multiple coordinated central control units to accomplish transactions relating to merchandise or services available for purchase, the process involving interfacing under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, one or more buyers at a plurality of remote locations using remote video terminals including personal computers with video capability, the one or more multiple coordinated central control units in communication with one or more vendors and having a capability to electronically communicate through a public communication system, the process comprising the steps of:

interfacing one or more buyers with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units for electronic communication;

receiving identification data from at least one buyer, the identification data

qualifying the at least one buyer for select communications with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units;

receiving request data from one or more buyers, the request data indicating an area of interest relating to merchandise or services available for purchase;

storing at least part of the request data;

interfacing one or more buyers to a video memory under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, the video memory storing one or more high resolution video images and text data relating to merchandise or services available for purchase from the one or more vendors;

facilitating access to proposed data from the video memory, the proposed data including video images and text data responsive to the request data for viewing by a buyer;

storing ratings data relating to the one or more vendors;

storing data relating to one or more transactions initiated by one or more buyers; and

transmitting to at least one buyer a message including data relating to a transaction initiated by the at least one buyer after an interface between the at least one buyer and the one or more multiple coordinated central control units is terminated, the data including a number identifying the transaction.

160. (New) A process according to claim 159 further comprising the step of monitoring time limitations relating to a purchase of merchandise or services.

161. (New) A process according to claim 159 wherein the proposed data includes a vendor merchandise or service offering.

162. (New) A process according to claim 161 further comprising the step of obtaining buyer reaction data relating to the vendor merchandise or service offering.

163. (New) A process according to claim 159, further comprising the step of:

notifying one or more buyers regarding a new merchandise or service offering from a vendor.

164. (New) A process according to claim 163, wherein the new merchandise or service offering is available for a limited period of time.

165. (New) A process according to claim 163, wherein the one or more buyers subsequently communicate via the one or more multiple coordinated central control units regarding the new merchandise or service offering.

166. (New) A process according to claim 165, further comprising the step of:

storing, via the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, data relating to the one or more buyers' subsequent communications regarding the new merchandise or service offering.

167. (New) A process according to claim 163, further comprising obtaining buyer reaction data regarding the new merchandise or service offering.

168. (New) A process according to claim 159 wherein at least one remote video terminal is located in a buyer's home.

169. (New) A process according to claim 159 further comprising the step of facilitating access by one or more buyers to one or more vendors under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units.

170. (New) A process according to claim 159 wherein certain of the one or more vendors are accorded a priority status under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units.

171. (New) A process according to claim 159 wherein the message is transmitted via electronic mail.

172. (New) A process for directing and exchanging data communications in real-time under control of one or more multiple coordinated central control units to accomplish transactions relating to merchandise or services available for purchase, the process involving interfacing under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, one or more buyers at a plurality of remote locations using remote video terminals including personal computers with video capability, the one or more multiple coordinated central control units in communication with one or more vendors and having a capability to electronically communicate through a public communication system, the process comprising the steps of:

interfacing one or more buyers with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units for electronic communication;

receiving identification data from at least one buyer, the identification data qualifying the at least one buyer for select communications with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units;

receiving request data from one or more buyers, the request data including one or more merchandise or service categories and subcategories;

storing at least part of the request data;

interfacing one or more buyers to a video memory under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, the video memory storing one or more high resolution video images and text data relating to merchandise or services available for purchase from the one or more vendors;

facilitating access to proposed data from the video memory, the proposed data including video images and text data responsive to the request data for viewing by a buyer;

receiving an indication of a price at least one buyer is willing to pay for merchandise or services relating to the one or more merchandise or service categories and subcategories, wherein the proposed data is selected based, at least in part, on the price;

storing data relating to one or more transactions initiated by one or more buyers;

maintaining in a memory associated with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units data indicating a rating or a priority designation, or both, for at least one of the one or more vendors; and

transmitting to at least one buyer a message including data relating to a transaction initiated by the at least one buyer after an interface between the at least one buyer and the one or more multiple coordinated central control units is terminated, the data including a number identifying the transaction.

173. (New) A process according to claim 172 wherein the indication of the price is a maximum amount that the at least one buyer is willing to pay for the merchandise or services.

174. (New) A process according to claim 172 wherein the one or more merchandise or service categories and subcategories are represented by codes.

175. (New) A process according to claim 174 wherein the codes are represented by numerical representations.

176. (New) A process according to claim 172, further comprising the step of:

notifying one or more buyers regarding a new merchandise or service offering from a vendor.

177. (New) A process according to claim 176, wherein the new merchandise or service offering is available for a limited period of time.

178. (New) A process according to claim 176, wherein the one or more buyers subsequently communicate via the one or more multiple coordinated central control units regarding the new merchandise or service offering.

179. (New) A process according to claim 178, further comprising the step of:

storing, via the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, data relating to the one or more buyers' subsequent communications regarding the new merchandise or service offering.

180. (New) A process according to claim 176, further comprising obtaining buyer reaction data regarding the new merchandise or service offering.

181. (New) A process according to claim 172 further comprising the step of monitoring time limitations relating to a purchase of merchandise or services.

182. (New) A process according to claim 172 wherein the proposed data includes a vendor merchandise or service offering.

183. (New) A process according to claim 182 further comprising the step of obtaining buyer reaction data relating to the vendor merchandise or service offering.

184. (New) A process according to claim 172 wherein at least one remote video terminal is located in a buyer's home.

185. (New) A process according to claim 172 further comprising the step of facilitating access by one or more buyers to one or more vendors under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units.

186. (New) A process according to claim 172 wherein at least certain of the proposed data reflects, at least in part, the rating or the priority designation, or both, maintained for the at least one of the one or more vendors.

187. (New) A process according to claim 172 wherein the message is transmitted via electronic mail.

188. (New) A process for directing and exchanging data communications in real-time under control of one or more multiple coordinated central control units to accomplish transactions relating to merchandise or services available for purchase, the process involving interfacing under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, one or more buyers at a plurality of remote locations using remote video terminals including personal computers with video capability, the one or more multiple coordinated central control units in

communication with one or more vendors and having a capability to electronically communicate through a public communication system, the process comprising the steps of:

- transmitting to one or more buyers a first message including data relating to merchandise or service offerings of one or more vendors;

- interfacing the one or more buyers with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units for electronic communication;

- interfacing one or more other buyers with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units for electronic communication;

- receiving identification data from at least one buyer, the identification data qualifying the at least one buyer for select communications with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units;

- interfacing one or more buyers with one or more live operator stations under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, wherein at least one of the one or more live operator stations has graphics display capabilities and has access to at least certain data associated with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units;

- receiving request data from one or more buyers, the request data including one or more merchandise or service categories and subcategories;

- storing at least part of the request data;

- interfacing one or more buyers to a video memory under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units, the video memory storing one or more high resolution video images and text data relating to merchandise or services available for purchase from the one or more vendors;

- facilitating access to proposed data from the video memory, the proposed data including video images and text data responsive to the request data for viewing by a buyer;

- storing data relating to one or more transactions initiated by one or more buyers; and

- transmitting to at least one buyer a second message including data relating to a transaction initiated by the at least one buyer after an interface

between the at least one buyer and the one or more multiple coordinated central control units is terminated, the data including a number identifying the transaction.

189. (New) A process according to claim 188 wherein the step of interfacing one or more buyers with one or more live operator stations facilitates electronic communications between at least one buyer and at least one live operator station.

190. (New) A process according to claim 189 wherein the at least one buyer's electronic communications with the live operator station include real-time voice communication.

191. (New) A process according to claim 189 wherein the at least one buyer's electronic communications with the live operator station include real-time video communication.

192. (New) A process according to claim 189 wherein the at least one buyer's electronic communications with the live operator station include live person-to-person video communication.

193. (New) A process according to claim 188 wherein the step of interfacing one or more buyers with one or more live operator stations facilitates real-time voice communications between at least one buyer and at least one live operator terminal.

194. (New) A process according to claim 193 wherein an auto dialer associated with the one or more multiple coordinated central control units facilitates the step of interfacing one or more buyers with one or more live operator stations for real-time voice communications.

195. (New) A process according to claim 188 further comprising the step of monitoring time limitations relating to a purchase of merchandise or services.



196. (New) A process according to claim 188 wherein the proposed data includes a vendor merchandise or service offering.

197. (New) A process according to claim 196 further comprising the step of obtaining buyer reaction data relating to the vendor merchandise or service offering.

198. (New) A process according to claim 188 wherein at least one remote video terminal is located in a buyer's home.

199. (New) A process according to claim 188 further comprising the step of facilitating access by one or more buyers to one or more vendors under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units.

200. (New) A process according to claim 188 further comprising the step of interfacing one or more buyers with one or more automated response units under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units.

201. (New) A process according to claim 188 wherein at least one of the one or more buyers to whom data relating to merchandise or service offerings is transmitted via electronic mail is selected for such transmittal based, at least in part, upon request data of the at least one buyer previously stored in a memory associated with the multiple coordinated central control units.

202. (New) A process according to claim 188 wherein certain of the one or more vendors are accorded a priority status under control of the one or more multiple coordinated central control units.

203. (New) A process according to claim 188 wherein the first and second messages are transmitted via electronic mail.